



THE

# KNIGHT



VOLUME 14, No. 1. Issue #76. The LITHUANIAN Numismatic Association. Frank Passic, EDITOR.

September-October 1991

## INDEPENDENCE ACHIEVED !!



The Soviet coup during the third week of August and the subsequent overthrow of Communism by the people of the Soviet Union resulted in rapid stunning changes which only weeks earlier would have been unthinkable.

The reestablishment of the independence of the Republic of Lithuania has certainly breathed new life into our numismatic specialty, as we very anxiously await the new Litas banknotes and coins which soon will be reintroduced into Lithuanian society.

This is an exciting time for all of us, as we await the news that the free and independent Republic of Lithuania has indeed placed into circulation its own coins and currency. We will keep you, our members, informed.

Illustrated above is a copper/bronze medal, 65 mm. diameter, issued to commemorate the reestablishment of the Republic of Lithuania on March 11, 1990. The obverse features the national emblem, VYTIS, with a tri-shield design background. To the left is the word LIETUVA with the ancient Vytautas' sword emblem. To the right is the word ATKURTA with the double-barred cross emblem. On the bottom is the Columns of Gediminas emblem and the date. Below are the small initials of the designer, "AD." Translation: LITHUANIA REESTABLISHED MARCH 11, 1990." The reverse carries a tri-Columns of Gediminas emblem background, with the words: LAISVE TEVYNEI MEILE JAI IR PASISVENTIMAS, which translates, "Memories for the homeland, Love for her and sacrifice." Congratulations President Landsbergis and the Republic of Lithuania!



(This original article by our official LNA translator, Aleksandras Radzius, is continued from our March-April 1990 issue. Our apologies for not noticing that the article was not concluded here. )

The Lithuanian land reform of 1557 stipulated that peasants were to be assigned days they were to work for the landowner and were to be told what tools to bring on that day. Peasants not reporting for work on the assigned day were fined one groschen for the first offence, a lamb on the second offence, and a whipping on the third offence and then they still had to make up the missed work days<sup>40</sup>.

King Sigismund August maintained a library in Vilnius<sup>41</sup>. He had an agent travel throughout Europe purchasing books for his library. The royal treasurer recorded the prices of the books, cost of binding the books and other related expenses. Sigismund August had a library of about 4,000 books which cost 5,000 kapa groschen (300,000 groschen)<sup>42</sup>. Books purchased for Sigismund August were custom bound in fine leather and finely embossed to include his royal arms. Thus, each book cost Sigismund August about 75 groschen. It is not clear if this price include the cost of the custom binding and the expenses of the agent. Assuming that half of the price per book was the cost of the custom binding and the expenses of the agent, the cost per book could be estimated at about 35 groschen each.

Around 1577, a protestant college supported by Michael Radvila the Brown, the governor of Vilnius, operated in Vilnius. Protasevičius, the bishop of Vilnius obtained a royal decree from King Stephan Bathory stating that schools not sanctioned by the bishop of Vilnius were contrary to the jurisdiction of the bishop and the state and that the governor of Vilnius, was to confiscated the property of any such school and fine the guilty parties up to 10,000 kapa's groschen (600,000 groschen). The decree was not enforced<sup>43</sup>. In 1452 the Dean of the Vilnius Cathedral College drew an annual salary of 480 groschen. In 1592, a school master of a protestant village school drew an annual salary of 3,000 groshen (see below). Even allowing for inflation, a fine of up to 600,000 groschen could not have been aimed at the dean but rather at the noble who was the patron of the college, in this case Michael Radvila the Brown. For the fine to have an effect, it must have had an impact on the nobles net liquid cash worth. Thus a 600,000 groschen fine might represent 1/4 to 1/2 of a nobles cash worth. The Radvila were very wealthy Lithuanian nobles. It seems reasonable to estimate the Radvila family had a liquid cash worth of at least more than a million groschen.

In 1583, Bishop Eustachijus Valavičius issued a decree which was proclaimed on the Naujamiestis estate in Upyte district. The decree stated that there were many peasants in the village and on the farms who did not know their prayers. In the fall, after the harvest, boys 8-15 years of age were to go to school. Every Sunday they were to report to the bachelor what they had learned. Parish priests were of noble birth, they had educated assistants, bachelors, who were not of noble birth. The boys were to teach what they had learned to other members of their family. If the boy did not have enough to eat at home, he was to be given board from the estate household until his schooling was completed. Peasants who did not send their sons to school in the winter were liable to a



## 1922 Temporary 1 Litas Banknote (Pick-5) with Left-Handed Vytis emblem.

1 Litas, Pick-5

Date: September 10, 1922

Size: 120 x 65 mm.

Printer: Otto Elsner, Berlin

With the heroic reestablishment of the independence of Lithuania, we thought we would look back in history to the year 1922, when Lithuanian officials were hurried into printing new banknotes, and an embarrassing printing error occurred.

Vytis is the national emblem of Lithuania, and is found on seals, documents, flags, banknotes, and coins of the country. Vytis first appeared on Lithuanian coins in the 14th century. As time progressed, a variety of superfluous additions were given to the knight, such as a long saddle cloth and ornate tail feathers on the horse.

In all cases however, the shield remains in the left hand and the sword in the right. If, for some reason, the knight was pictured facing right (as was the case with the early coins and seals of Gediminas, Vytautas the Great, and Jogaila), the body would conceal the shield and its design. After the 15th century, the knight remained permanently facing left, so as to display both the sword and the shield.

The year 1922 was a busy one for the independent Lithuanian government. The value of the German mark, upon which the satellite "Ostmarks" used in Lithuania were based (called "Auksinas" by Lithuanians), was sinking fast. The alarming inflation caused the Senate to meet in the summer of that year and plan a new, independent Lithuanian currency. Called "LITAS," derived from LITHuania, a given unit had the value of 0.150462 grams of gold. This act passed the Lithuanian Senate on August 9, 1922.

As the value of the Ostmark dropped, things in Lithuania grew hectic. Within the Ministry of Finance, Trade and Industry, a series of deadlines were set. Officials worked around the clock formulating rules, regulations, and procedures to accompany the announcement of the new monetary unit. A secret deadline of October 1 was set. The government had just one month to design, prepare, print, and be ready to distribute its new money.

At the time, there was no printer with a sufficient stock of quality paper or printing facilities available in the



country to print the new banknotes. The Ministry of Finance, Trade and Industry (predecessor of the Bank of Lithuania) hurried to order temporary notes to be printed by the Otto Elsner printers in Berlin, Germany. With the order went a series of instructions as to denominations, signatures, etc. An artist was not responsible for designing these notes, because there was no time to do so. Instead, the Lithuanian government sent to Berlin a copy of the signatures to appear and a photo of the Vytis emblem. The printing house formulated the designs and texts.

Notes were printed by the lithographic method in six denominations: 1, 5, 20, and 50 cent; 1 and 5 Litas'. Of particular interest is this 1 Litas note. On the reverse, a glaring national, historical, and numismatic error was made. The reverse features a large "1" in the center, with Vytis on both sides for symmetry. The Vytis on the right was normal, but the Vytis on the left was the result of a mirror image flipped negative of the Vytis emblem. Consequently, the Vytis on the left is shown charging to the right, the shield in his right arm and the sword in his left hand. Whoever heard of a left-handed knight? A left-handed knight would be at a disadvantage in defending himself.

This embarrassing error had to "stay," since there was not time to make corrections and print new notes before the October 1 deadline. In his book, *Independent Lithuanian Money*, Jonas K. Karys writes, "One thing is clear, we must not look for any ill-will here; most likely, carelessness



kapa groschen (60 groschen) fine payable to the infirmary<sup>44</sup>. Previously, it was estimated that during the 1500's a laborer/peasant might earn about 500 groschen a year. This fine could constitute about 1/10 the annual income of a peasant.

In 1585, Pope Sixtus V offered to contribute 25,000 ducats (100,000 groschen) for King Bathory's war effort against the Turks<sup>45</sup>.

In 1592, Duchess Sofija Vnuckienė, a protestant, established a school at Šiluva. The school was to have a teacher (a bachelor) and two assistants one of whom was to be a decon (dijokas). The teacher was to take on 4 sons of poor protestants, teach them and give them room and board. The teacher was to be paid 100 auksina (3,000 groschen) annually. The decon was to be paid 60 auksina (1,800 groschen) annually, and the second assistant 30 auksina (900 groschen). Room and board was provided for the two assistants<sup>46</sup>.

In summary, it would appear that in Lithuania between 13th and 16th centuries, royalty and high nobility operated with annual cash flows of between 10's of thousands and 10's of millions groschen. Allowing for donations, estimates of clerical annual cash income could range between thousands to 10's of thousands groschen. Not unexpectedly, men-of-letters seemed to have had annual cash flows of similar order of magnitude as those of the clergy. Allowing for booty, a man-at-arms in Lithuania might have an annual cash flow of around a thousand groschen. A peasant probably earned under a thousand groschen annually. A major farm animal cost a peasant about a tenth of his annual income. And a book might cost a peasant about a twentieth of his annual income.

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Notes:

- |                               |                                   |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. (9) p.50                   | 23. (1) p.243                     | 45. (11) p. 316 |
| 2. Ibid.                      | 24. (5) p.252                     | 46. (2) p. 148  |
| 3. (8) p.147                  | 25. Ibid., p. 20                  |                 |
| 4 (12) p.39                   | 26. Ibid., p. 277                 |                 |
| 5. (9) p. 51                  | 27. (1) p. 252                    |                 |
| 6. (1) p. 100                 | 28. Ibid., p. 53                  |                 |
| 7. Ibid., p. 129              | 29. (11) p. 380                   |                 |
| 8. Ibid., p. 290              | 30. (2) p. 64                     |                 |
| 9. Ibid., p. 102              | 31. (1) p. 258                    |                 |
| 10. Ibid., p. 189             | 32. (5) p. 256                    |                 |
| 11. (3) p. 337 and (1) p. 100 | 33. (1) p.128                     |                 |
| 12. (6) p.41                  | 34. (2) p. 129                    |                 |
| 13. (4) p. 8-9                | 35. (1). p. 260                   |                 |
| 14. (7) p.130                 | 36. (10) p. 261                   |                 |
| 15. (1) p. 102                | 37 (1) p. 260                     |                 |
| 16 (10) p. 136                | 38. (10) p. 171                   |                 |
| 17 (12) p. 76                 | 39. Ibid, p.175                   |                 |
| 18 Ibid., p. 70               | 40. Ibid, p. 173                  |                 |
| 19. (7) p. 141                | 41 Ibid, p. 169                   |                 |
| 20. Ibid., p. 142             | 42. (1) p. 127                    |                 |
| 21. (5) p. 252                | 43. (2) p. 147-148 and (5) p. 282 |                 |
| 22. (13) p.21                 | 44. Ibid., p. 148                 |                 |

PRAGUE GROSCHEN			
Kings of Bohemia			
Wencezlaus II (1278-1305)	27mm	3.66 gm (3.41 gm silver)	0.933
Wencezlaus III (1305-1306)			
Rudolf			
Henry (1307-1310)			
John the Blind of Luxemburg (1310-1346)		(Lighter)	0.88
Charles I (1346-1378)		3.30 gm (2.72 gm silver)	0.825
Wencezlaus IV (1378-1419)*		2.80 gm (1.62 gm silver)	.5-.68 (.58)
Sigismund of Hungary (1419-1437)			
Albert of Austria (1437-1439)			
Ladislaus Posthumus (1439-1457)			
George Podebrad (1458-1471)			
*78% of all Prague Groschen found in Lithuania were minted by Wencezlaus IV			
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Karys, Jonas. Senovės Lietuvos Pinigai, Istorija ir Numizmatika. Bridgeport, Conn, U.S.A., 1959			
Gurney, Gene. Kingdoms of Europe, New York, N.Y. U.S.A., 1982			



MIEVEAL LITHUANIAN COINS		
		German coins
obolas ( 1/2 pinigėlis )	1/2 dinar	hohlpennig
pinigėlis	dinar	pfennig
dvylekis ( 2 pinigėliai )	2 dinars	
		kwartnik ( 4 pfennigen )
pusgrašis ( 5 pinigėliai )	half-groschen	kreuzer
grašis* ( 10 pinigėliai )	groschen	vierchen ( 10 pfennigen )
		shilling ( 12 pfennigen )
dvigrašis ( 2 grašiai )	2 groschen piece	
trigrašis ( 3 grašiai )	3 groschen piece	
ketvirtokas ( 4 grašiai )	florin, ducate, 4 groschen piece	halschoter ( 40 pfennigen )
šeštokas ( 6 grašiai )	6 groschen piece	
		schoter ( 80 pfennigen )
		mark ( 100 pfennigen )
pustaleris ( 15 grašių )	half-thaler ( 15 groschen )	
taleris, puskapis, auksinas ( 30 grašių )	thaler, gold piece ( 30 groschen )	
portugalas** ( 40 grašių )	10 florin gold piece ( 40 groschen )	
/kapa*** / ( 60 grašių )	( 60 groschen )	
/ilga kapa, rublis*** / ( 100 grašių )	long-kapa ( 100 groschen ), ruble	
* Due to the silver content, the exchange rate between Lithuanian and Polish groschen was 4 Lithuanian groschen for 5 Polish groschen.		
**The Lithuanian 10 florin gold-piece was 3.5 grams of 23.4k gold.		
*** Originally the KAPA was a cast bar of about 90% pure silver used as medium of exchange in Lithuania between about 900 A.D. to about 1450 A.D. Two sizes of KAPA were cast, the KAPA of about 100 gram weight, and the LONG-KAPA of about 200 gram weight. At around 1350, it was found that a KAPA was equivalent to about 60 Prague groschen. The KAPA began to also represent a unit of measure - 60 groschen. In the Lithuanian empire, coins of smaller denomination were needed in the western, Lithuanian, portion of the empire were commerce with Scandinavian and German merchants was conducted. Larger denomination mediums of exchange were sufficient for the eastern, Ruthenian and Ukrainian, portion of the empire. In the east, the long-kapa was translated into the Ruthenian word RUBLE. Since the LONG-KAPA had a silver equivalence of about 100 Prague groschen, the RUBLE also became a unit of measure - 100 groschen. Much later, when Moscovy gained power, she adopted the term ruble and the first ruble coins appeared.		

# MEDIEVAL LITHUANIAN COINAGE

		GERMAN EQUIVALANTS	ENGLISH EQUIVALANTS
OBOLIS ( 1/2 pinigėlis )			
PINIGĖLIS	dinar	hohlpfennig pfennig	
DVYLEKIS ( 2 pinigėliai )		kwartrik ( 4 pfennigen )	farthing ( 1/4 penny )
PUSGRAŠIS ( 5 pinigėliai )	half-groschen	kreuzer vierchen ( 10 pfennigen )	
GRAŠIS ( 10 pinigėliai ) ( 1-2 gm silver )	groschen	shilling ( 12 pfennigen ) ( 1.7 gm silver )	penny ( 1-1.5 gm silver )
DVIGRAŠIS ( 2 grašiai )			
TRIGRAŠIS ( 3 grašiai )			
KETVIRTOKAS ( 4 grašiai )	florin, ducate	halschoter ( 40 pfennigen )	groat ( 4 pennies )
ŠEŠTOKAS ( 6 grašiai )			
		schoter ( 80 pfennigen )	
PUSTALERIS ( 15 grašių )	half-thaler		shilling ( 21 gm silver )
TALERIS, PUSKAPIS, AUKSINIAS ( 30 grašių )	thaler, gold piece		
PORTUGALAS* ( 40 grašių )	10 florin gold piece		
KAPA** ( 60 grašių )	( 60 groschen )	mark ( 60 shillings ) ( 100 gm silver )	crown ( 5 shillings )
LONG-KAPA ( 100 grašių, 200 gm silver )	( 100 groschen )		mark/pound ( 200 gm silver )

\*The Lithuanian 10 florin gold-piece, Portugalas, was 3.5 grams of 23.4 k gold.

\*\*Originally the KAPA was a cast bar of sterling silver ( 90-92% silver ) used as a medium of exchange in Lithuania from before 900 to about 1450 A.D. Two sizes of KAPA were cast, the KAPA of about 100 gram weight and the LONG-KAPA of about 200 gram weight. The silver content of a KAPA was equivalent to that of about 60 Prague groschen of Wenceslaus II of Bohemia. The KAPA, thus, began to also to mean a unit of measure - 60 groschen. In the eastern portion of the Lithuanian Empire, Ruthenia and Ukraine, the long-kapa was known by the Ruthenian word RUBLE. Likewise, RUBLE also became a unit of measure - 100 groschen. Much later, when Moscow gained power, she adopted the word ruble as a name for her larger monetary unit.



# 8. LITHUANIAN NUMISMATIC DICTIONARY

BY

Jonas K. Karys

English Translation by  
V.L.G. Matelis



Continued from last issue...

12.

**DUKATAS/Ducat.** Latin, ducatus. A gold coin about 3.5 g. fixed weight, struck of high assay gold (up to 23.5 carats) and because of this stable weight, it became the most trusted international monetary symbol, and was struck in many European states. The ducat originated in Venice in 1284; its inscription: "Sit Tibi, Christe, datus, quem Tu regis, iste ducatus." was copied from a silver "ducat" appearing in Sicily (Apolian Duchy) about the middle of the 12th century. The final word of the inscription determined the name of the coin, though in Venice itself, this coin was also known as a "zecchino." The ducat was first struck in Poland in 1528. The Lithuanian Grand Duke Sigismund August began to strike his own ducats at Vilnius in 1547. After him, Stephan Bator, Sigismund Vaza and John Casimir struck their own ducats after him (the last Lithuanian ducat appeared in 1666).

Lithuanian gold coins were issued in denominations of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 10 ducats. This latter coin was also known as a Portugaler. The earliest ducat's rate of exchange was 40 Lithuanian grashes, or about 50 Polish groszes. Later, this rate of exchange expanded, since a) many ducats were drawn out of the country, b) the silver standard depreciated, and c) the silver and billon bars declined. At the beginning of Sigismund Vaza's reign in the 17th century, the ducat standard grew up to 4 Polish zloti; in 1627 160 Polish groszes were paid for a Lithuanian ducat, and in 1664, this rose to 195 groszes.

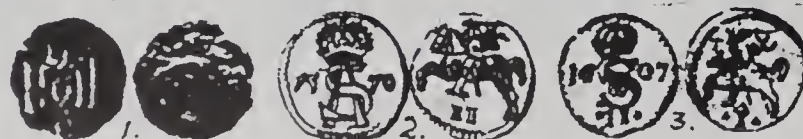


1, vienas pirmųjų dukatų (Giovanni Dandolo, 1280-89); 2, Venecijos XVIII a. 50 dukatų monetos antroji pusė (su įprasta legenda); 3, Breslavo Vyskupis Baltazaro 1554 dukatas; 4, LDK-tystės (Žyg. Augusto) 1564 dukatas.

From the time of August the Saxon, the entire 18th century, the Lithuanian ducat was valued at 18 Polish zloti (a copper coin). At times, the ducat was called the florin, again reminiscent of the old Florence gold piece, the florin, since both were nearly equal in their intrinsic value. The ducat is being struck in Europe even to our day, for example, in Czechoslovakia (1923-39), in Yugoslavia (1931-32), and elsewhere.

**DUKATON/Dukatoon.** A large silver coin of the Netherlands of the 17th and 18th centuries.

**DVIDENARIS/Double Denar.** (A 2-denar coin) 1) A silver coin of about 0.500 assay struck by Vytautas the Great at Lutsk between 1385-89 of 2-denars or small change value, weighting about 0.5 gr. 2) The billon 2-denars struck by Sigismund August and Sigismund Vasa in Vilnius, weighing about 0.635 gr. (with 0.140 gr. silver), Vaza-about 0.730 gr. (with 0.070 gr. silver). They were struck: the first from 1550 to 1570, the second 1606 to 1626. Five denars made up the grashis. All the 2-denar coins in Lithuania were called "dvylekiai" (double denars). Later, the public called the 1.5 grashis coin (see "Paltarokas") of the Lithuanian Grand Duchy likewise.



1, Vytauto dvidenaris, mušd. Lucke; 2-3. Žyg. Augusto ir Žyg. Vazos "dvylekiai".



DVIGALVIS ERELIS/ Two-headed eagle. See: Erelis.

DVIGRASIS/Double Grashis. A silver coin of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the value of 2-grashes, struck in Vilnius in 1565, and weighing about 1.820 gr. with silver assaying at 0.875. This coin was one of the most beautiful and in its time, the most valuable Lithuanian coins; in relation to Poland's money of that time, the double grashes were worth  $2\frac{1}{2}$  of the Polish money.

DVIGUBAS KRYZIUS SKYDE/Doubled Cross in the Shield. The individual symbol of the Jogaila dynasty, made up on the occasion of Grand Duke Jogaila's marriage to the Polish Queen Jadwiga, and taken by the newly married couple to Poland as his family's coat of arms. 2) An integral part of our current Knight's (Vytis) emblem, affixed for the first time in the 14th century to the seal of Jogaila's knight, to the left shoulder of the rider (the ruler himself) and there, repeated on the Jogailian seals (as Grand Duke of Lithuania) and coins as the Knight's coat of arms, has so remained to the present day. 3) It is the national emblem of Lithuania (separate from the Knight), immortalized in the Vilnius coins of Lithuania's Grand Duke Vytautas. 4) In the era of independent Lithuania, it was selected and accepted as the identifying mark of the Riflemen's Association (Sauliu Sajungos).



LDK-tystės dvigrašis.



Dvigubas kryžius skyde: 1, Jogailos monetoje, Lenkijoje; 2, Jogailos rait. tipo antspaude; 3, Vytauto monetoje; 4, Lietuvos Respublikos monetų Vyčio ženkle (herbe).

## Two-Grashis

DVIGUBAS PINIGELIS/Double Change. See: Dvidenaris.

DVIKALBES MONETOS/Two Tongued Coins. Those coins which have inscriptions or legends in two different languages, for example, during the occupation of Poland by Russia during the 19th century, coins with inscriptions, "5 Kopecks/10 Groszy," "30 kopecks/2 Zloti," etc.



Dvikalbių mon. pavyzdžiai: 1, Armėnijos XIII a. moneta su armėnų ir arabų įrašais; 2, rusų okupuotos Lenkijos mon. su rusiškais ir lenkiškais įrašais; 3, ėjusios Lietuvoje ostrublio geležin. kapeikos su rus. ir vok. įrašais.

ECKHEL, Joseph Hilarius (1737-1798), an Austrian Jesuit, numismatist, professor at the University of Vienna and Curator of the Royal Coin Collection; a celebrated author of scientific numismatic works. His most important work, "Doctrina nummorum veterum," in 8 volumes, printed in 1792-1798.

Continued next issue...

# 10. 1 Litas Banknote

(Continued from page 3...)

of the journeymen and their superiors at the printing plant was responsible for the error." Nobody really knows who was responsible for designing the backwards "lefty" Vytis, but the design was not the product of ignorance and not the child of politics.

Thus, when the currency was issued to the public in October 1922, the public had something more to talk about.

The 1 Litas note is dark green, and contains the facsimile signatures of these officials: Vytautas Petrulis, Juozas Dulskis, and Ipolitas Jazdauskas. The obverse text translates, "Temporary Banknote of the Bank of Lithuania. The Bank of Lithuania will Exchange into Litas' to the Holder 1 One Litas. Kaunas, 1922, September 10th day, Bank of Lithuania. Falsification is punishable by Statute."

In addition to the "lefty" Vytis, the reverse text translates, "Bank of Lithuania, Temporary Banknote, 1 One Litas. The reverse also contains serial numbers and letters. The 1 Litas note has two varieties based upon the background watermarks. The first (a) has a braided design and bears the serial letter A. The second type (b) features a running knot and bears the serial letters of B and C."

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## FOR SALE/WANTED



FOR SALE: Complete 3-piece set of the Lithuanian Displaced Person's Camp Money from Scheinfeld, Germany, 1946. 10 and 50 Centu, 1 Doleris. Historic set for Lithuanian collectors. XF average condition, \$75.00.

LITHUANIAN COIN HOLDERS for complete 14 coin set 1925, 1936, 1938. Capital plastic, \$25.00 each.

BALZEKAS MUSEUM OF LITHUANIAN CULTURE, 6500 S. PULASKI, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60629.

WANTED: I find that I have some Lithuanian coins that need to be upgraded. GRADE DESIRED: Y-1 1925 1 Centas AU; Y-4 1925 20 Centu XF-AU; Y-5 1925 50¢, XF-AU. If you have any of them in those conditions for sale, please contact me with your quote. Ed Prunckun, 171 Rockrose Drive, Newark, DE 19711.

## LETTERS

My name is Robert Brytan. I am presently working on a project about Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian navys (military) and Coast Guard during the inter-war years.

I am interested in obtaining any materials you might have on this subject. These include articles, photocopies of documents, ship's plans or photographs. I am also interested in any particulars concerning the above mentioned navys such as when they were established, structural details, uniforms (i.e. badges, ranks, ribbons, official flags and when they were introduced) as well as information concerning officers and under which command they were under, etc.

I am finding that source material is rare and difficult to come by, therefore I would be extremely grateful for anything you might provide. Even if the information you have is in other foreign languages, please free to send it.

--Robert Brytan, Baltic Maritime Archives

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With the fast breaking developments occurring in Lithuania, this editor would appreciate it if LNA members with contacts in Lithuania would keep him informed about the issuance of new banknotes and coins, so we can pass the information along to you our members. You can write me at my home address in Michigan. --F. Passic, EDITOR.